

Saratoga Wilton Soccer Club Board Meeting Minutes

December 13th, 2021 @ 8:00pm

Attending: Kemp Bundy, Adam Costello, Kiersten Owen, Kyle Quinn, Brandon Querbes, Jacqueline Miller, Sarah Schenone, Alex Ballesteros, Richard Snyder, Steve Lapp, Christina Lindheimer, Ed Cubanski, Amanda Twohig

- Approval of [November](#) Meeting Minutes
 - Brandon motions, Tina seconds.
- Member Business
 - NYCFC Summer Camp
 - Raul needs to circle back with us. They're more than willing to consider Gavin as the location. Jacqueline will go back to him this week and find out when he wants to meet.
 - By-Law Updates - Brandon
 - Suggested edits added and up for approval.
 - Tina motions, Sarah seconds.
 - Section 6.e re: Registrar compensation/reimbursement needs to be clarified/updated (\$25/team).
 - ACTION ITEM: Ed to provide NY sales tax exemption certificate for our records.
 - COVID Protocol review
 - NYS has mandated masks indoors. We'll continue to reassess (likely next on Jan 15th when NYS's mandate may change).
- Treasurer's Report – Brandon
 - Brandon is waiting on this quarter's financials from the accountant. He'll have 6 months in hand to do a budget to actuals analysis. He'll do this in January (normally received second week of January so may not have an update ready for the Jan meeting).
 - Things are going reasonably well from a financing standpoint. Cash is strong.
 - Cleaning service will be split w/ Afrim's for cleaning 1x weekly on both sides.
 - Grant received for the goals is in the account.
 - We asked CDYSL for an explanation of their fees, they didn't provide much. We made payment anyway.
 - Jacqueline's husband passed on a \$50 service bonus to the club.
- Registrar's Report – Tina
 - 20 additional players who've registered, up to 360 completed registrations. There are about 50 who have not completed.
 - QUESTION: [Safesport Requirement](#)
 - Everyone on the board who is not a coach or a manager must complete Safesport, along with those players who are 18 in 2022. Tina to send the link to board members to complete.
- Coaching
 - Rec – Kyle
 - Winter Academy
 - Starts after Feb break through April (good lead up for rec into spring travel). There would be time/space at Charb's for this. We've sent the dates to Afrim's so they block them.
 - We may need to increase budget or find a volunteer coach (Kyle was stretched last year). Kyle will reach out to some of the rec coaches.
 - Travel - Adam
 - U16 reconfigurations

- Summary is GU16 is having trouble w/ viability (low #s in general, lost some players to Alleycats). The possible joint venture w/ NYE may not come through. Adam connected w/ Jesse Carpenter and Paul Rogan and tentatively agreed that the girls would get together to assess quality. But we're having difficulty connecting and there's weak attendance when we do. Jesse is the decision maker and said they would like to do a combined CDYSL for spring. It will require some finesse since their U16 is also covering for gaps in their U18 team. Adam is hopeful that we can field a team for spring and give the girls an outlet to play at a high level. Adam will connect w/ Jason Tenner and Patrick Cogan to get things moving.
 - BU16 - 8 active, U15 team has 17/18 players. This complicates things for parents and managers. Hoping for a resolution asap.
 - ACTION ITEM: Gather some coaching resources together to determine best step forward.
 - There was an issue with a U15 parent from the sidelines. We reached out to the bystanders and all involved to understand the situation. There have been historical issues here. After speaking w/ coaches and the family, there's a plan in place to deal with this (this person will step away for a bit) and will continue to evaluate. If we need it, Plan B would be to bring the board onboard to determine next steps. Suggestion is to reiterate our zero tolerance policy to the club. Also a question about policies held by the facility. CDYSL also has guidelines.
 - ACTION ITEM: Ed to check w/ Afrim.
 - Adam's been connecting w/ coaches at their games. He likes the way we're playing, possession-based, development oriented for U12 and below. He's at technical training and sees players individually as well. He's pleased w/ the younger coaches. Robb MacDonald has revived the U18, great culture.
- Tournaments and Events –Adele
 - MayDay registration is normally open on 12/1 (and our application has not yet been approved). We can't open up registration until application is accepted. This puts us behind. Wendy had a very thoroughly-outlined project plan and Tina reviewed and got us caught up, but we're having trouble connecting with Adele.
 - Contract has been signed with Belmonte for the tent, Stone for the porta potties. All vendors from last year will be returning with a 15% of sales coming back to the club. Contracts have been distributed.
 - Gavin Park has been reserved and text out to confirm submitting the official park rental has been sent.
 - All vendors will have been sent an email requesting interest and contract.
 - We're behind in banner sponsors (Jaqueline to take on the latter).
 - Voucher codes are done and sent to our teams (as a test case).
 - Would be great to knock out some of our bond checks as soon as possible.
 - Vote to have GotSport advertise May Day for us (cost is believed to be between \$1000 - \$1500).
 - Kemp motions, Tina seconds.
 - We'll need to have a flyer crafted for that as well as the ENY and CDYSL mailings.
 - Wendy updated the flyer and we'll get that out.
- Scheduling and Facilities - Kyle
 - Winter schedule has taken shape, some things had to be moved around based on space constraints at Charbs. We've had some coaches take advantage of 3-5pm.
 - We do have an option to take on 2 more hours from the Wilton YMCA which would be helpful because we've got a lot of teams who are not getting any turf time at all. It would be an extra

\$1200-\$1500 roughly. But we are saving \$ from the unused Gavin space (so is nearly a wash, no more than \$1k). For a total of about \$37k for the year. Kyle will work w/ U18 coaches on down to see how to best utilize the spots.

- Ed motions, Kemp approves.
- We need to confirm which weeks we'll bypass over the holidays. We usually take the week off, but it's typically because the facilities were closed. It totals about 9 hours. Adam to communicate out to coaches on how to coordinate time at Charbs w/ Kyle as necessary. We'll shut down Gavin and Charbs from 12/22/21 - 1/2/22.
- Update on indoor options for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024
- Charbs renovations
 - Considering this 100% complete, we're making due w/ the mini field.
 - Painting could be done on the outside boards.
 - Suggestion box for improvements.
- Fundraising and Sponsorship – Jacqueline/Adele
 - Adirondack Trust grant was granted. Thanks to Jacqueline for securing that.
 - Belichick foundation is out (\$10k).
 - Still in for the Dick's grant for Veo video systems (just under \$10k)
 - We s/b hearing back soon.
 - Ed will rejuvenate the FlipGive initiative.
 - A few other irons in the fire that Jacqueline is grouping into the facility program.
 - RFP for Mt. MacGregor. There's a gym and a whole baseball field off the gym. There will be \$ available if it's "something they can get behind."
- Communications and PR - Adam and Sarah
 - Google Workspace. Board signed off on pursuing this.
- Social Media and Website – Richie/Alex
- Manager's Report –Steve
 - He's down to only a few sets of pinnies, so depending on the spring season demand, we may need to order more. Kemp will proactively order 40 youth and 20 adult. He's pooled the money to date and got a check to Brandon.
 - BU11 manager was transitioned from Jessica Fernandez to Jen Spoor.
 - Steve's goal is to have all manager requirements completed by EOY (there are a couple of stragglers).
- Subcommittees
 - 2022-2023 Pricing
 - 2022-2023 pricing structure and implementation plan
 - A la carte corrections
 - Rebranding of Select and Competitive terminology
 - Per-player costs and expenses
 - U14+ costs accounting for School play.
 - Coaching Fees changes?
 - Covering coaching courses (clause for club commitment for accepting funds)
 - ACTION ITEM: Sarah to schedule a meeting w/ interested members after Brandon's 6 month review is done in January.
 - Facilities → Moved to Executive Session
 - WWW Redesign
 - Player Retention and Attrition

- We've been coming across more and more parents evaluating if the grass is greener on the other side. We also know of former members who are actively recruiting age groups across the board.
 - Player development is a year-long practice. Short-term isn't the right perspective. Parents want immediate results.
 - We're confident in the coaching leadership and our strategy.
 - The measure of our success is the amount of college-aged success that we have in addition to the character of the kids who are playing.
 - From an institutional perspective, how can we help educate our community on our goals, etc. on what we're trying to do and how we're trying to get there.
 - Ed will be attending a team practice to field concerns and will report back to the board.
 - Suggestion to maybe re-adopt the Board Ambassador program where members went to each team at least once to visit and create a feedback loop.
 - ACTION ITEM: Develop a question set/talking points for Board member outreach and possibly an anonymous survey to help frame them.
- New Business
 - Amanda Twohig is considering joining the board. She introduced herself and outlined her goals and we'd love to see her back.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, January 10th, 2022 at 8:00 pm